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SENATE RESOLUTION 171

By Atchley

A RESOLUTION to commend George D. Bratcher for exemplary service as a Legislative Intern.

WHEREAS, each legislative session this body is pleased to recognize certain individuals who have committed themselves, through their adroit service, to the betterment of the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, George D. Bratcher is one such individual who has distinguished himself in his role as a Legislative Intern for Senator Ben Atchley; George's work has resulted in innumerable benefits for the legislator he assisted and the General Assembly as a whole; and

WHEREAS, a native of Columbus, Texas, George Bratcher enlisted into the United States Army upon his graduation from Columbus High School in 1991; and

WHEREAS, after completing Basic Training, Mr. Bratcher attended Advanced Individual Training at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana to gain experience as a Legal Specialist in the Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG); and

WHEREAS, his first assignments were with the 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky and the United States Army Special Forces Command (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, Mr. Bratcher was chosen to serve as a member of the prosecution team aiding in the trial of the Sergeant Major of the Army in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, after six years of exemplary service to his country, George Bratcher was recommended for the Army's Officer Candidate School, where he excelled in his studies and developed his tremendous leadership abilities; and

WHEREAS, in April of 1998, after graduating from the Officer Candidate School, George was commissioned by the President of the United States as a Second Lieutenant in the Military Intelligence Corps and assigned to the 902<sup>nd</sup> Military Intelligence Group at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, throughout his service in Maryland, Mr. Bratcher served as the leader of the Partners in Education program with a school in Maryland where he directed numerous school events in coordination with his unit; and

WHEREAS, for his meritorious efforts in the United States Army, Mr. Bratcher was awarded with the distinguished rank of Captain; and

WHEREAS, during his astute service in the United States Army, George D. Bratcher garnered numerous awards and decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Army Superior Unit Award, the Army Good Conduct Award, the National Defense Service Medal, the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the Senior Parachutist Badge and the Canadian Parachutist Badge; and

WHEREAS, in addition to these honors, he attended several Army training schools, including the Officer Candidate School, the Military Intelligence Officer Basic Course, the Army Jumpmaster School, the Air Assault School, the Airborne School and the Counter Intelligence Agent's Course; and

WHEREAS, in August of 2000, Mr. Bratcher was accepted into the U.S. Army's Degree Completion Program for officers; and

WHEREAS, George is currently a student at Austin Peay State University, where he is highly regarded by his peers; George has achieved academic success while majoring in Political Science and participating in numerous extracurricular activities, including the College Republicans and the Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, eager to familiarize himself with the characteristics and complexity of Tennessee state government and to further his studies, he brought his many abilities and singular expertise to Nashville for the 2002 Session of the One Hundred Second General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 2002 Legislative Session, George Bratcher has surpassed all criteria that define a devoted and conscientious Legislative Intern; the combination of his military experiences and scholastic proficiency have provided him with an exceptional work ethic, a tremendous sense of duty and incomparable leadership skills; and

WHEREAS, these admirable qualities have been recognized by his peers as he was elected Intern Governor for the 2002 Session; and

WHEREAS, his numerous accomplishments aside, George is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his three children, Keyana, Shaleeah and Adrienne-Michael; and

WHEREAS, his patriotic desire to serve his country in every manner possible is a testament to his love for this nation and its people; and

WHEREAS, George D. Bratcher has performed his many duties with extraordinary insight and rare decorum, exemplifying the characteristics of a true Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby commend George D. Bratcher for his outstanding service as a Legislative Intern for Senator Ben Atchley and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.